

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of treating artherosclerosis by decreasing ~~inhibiting~~ oxidation of low density lipoproteins which comprises administering an effective amount of a *Hibiscus sabdariffa* water extract to a patient in need thereof; wherein oxidation of low density lipoproteins is ~~inhibited~~ decreased by the *Hibiscus sabdariffa* water extract.

2-4. (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising combining the said *Hibiscus sabdariffa* water extract with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

6. (currently amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the amount of the said *Hibiscus sabdariffa* water extract is administered in a pharmaceutical unit dosage form which is adapted for oral administration.

7. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the unit dosage form is a tablet or a capsule

8-14. (cancelled)